



the Venturer

Newsletter of the **North West Venturers Yacht Club**
Gallows Point, Beaumaris, Anglesey, LL58 8YL

Forthcoming Events

March 28th – Winter Event – David Rainsbury – Cruising Norway.

April 3rd – 6th **Easter cruise**:- A shake down cruise for those lucky enough to be in the water and able to enjoy the four day break.

April 11th – 12th **Abermenai** OoD Joshua Hollingworth – Chinook :- A chance for the Venturers to have the first BBQ and Bonfire of the season, in one of our favourite backstop anchorage's.

April 18th – 19th **Bull Bay** OoD Required :- A bay past and overlooked by Venturers for sometime now.

April 25th **Start of Season Party / Working Party** for details see page 14

May 2nd – 4th **North about Anglesey** OoD Jerry Jago – Ocean Mood :- The clubs first outing around Anglesey stopping at Holyhead and Llanddwyn Island including two points trophy races the Astrador Cup and the Walton Shield.

May 9th – 10th **Porth Tre Castell** OoD Required:- On the South Coast this anchorage offers an interesting alternative to Penny Parc with a nice beach. This is the first of our possible night sails.

Continued on page 9

In this edition...

Amongst other articles and information we have from bottom left, no, not our dinghy store! This is a write up of a visit to Das Boot in Dusseldorf by Dave and Georgina Clough (page 4 and 5s).

The top left is a picture I'm sure non of us wants to see in anger, the new S-92 Sikorsky helicopters based at Caernarfon airport (page 7).



To the top right members enjoyed another great night hosted for us by the Red Wharf Bay Yacht Club (Traeth Coch). Great food and hectic dancing showed up the fit from the not quite so fit! Bring on the next one! More pics on the back page.



Bottom right, I'm sure you will recognise the venue. Don't forget to get your place booked at the Start of Season Party on the 25th of April as food is again provided by outside caterers so get your booking in early (see page 14).



Here's to another great season at the NWWYC and fair winds!





Commodore's Corner

It's nice to see that spring is on its way, with members working on their yachts and some ready to go into the water already.....indeed they may well be bobbing by the time you read this edition of the Venturer!

The sailing sub committee have been working hard on the sailing programme as I'm sure you are aware from the draft copy on the web site, with yachts big and small catered for throughout the year, so a big well done to all involved on this one and thank you for all your hard work.

We will again have some new members out sailing with us this year, so a big welcome to you all and please don't be afraid to ask for help and advice with anything you are not sure about and do come along to the new members forum and get to know how the club runs and who does what within the club.

Most of us have now used the new front door and door code, which I think is a big improvement, along with the benefit of the double glazed windows.

The development committee met on the 28th February, with progress being made with the final plans and planning applications, which should be ready to be submitted within a month.

It was a very sad day when I was told Colin Snowden passed away on the 15th March. Colin was a long standing member who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Lee.

Commodore.

ARE YOUR DETAILS CORRECT ?

Reminder – Check that your details are up to date.

The membership database is updated as we are notified of any changes but as we have been compiling the information for the Yearbook we have noticed that some of the information we hold about addresses, phone numbers and boat information is out of date.

Please can you all check on the website that your contact details and boat information are up to date. There is a link at the bottom of the "Renew Membership" page <http://www.nwvyc.org.uk/members/RenewSubs2015.html> so you will need to log into the members area of the website.

View from the Rear

A View from the Rear.

By the time you read this most of you will have realised that Easter is upon us. A lucky few will have antifouled and done the most satisfying job in the winter, peeling back the masking tape to reveal a crisp clean line of antifoul along the hull of their yacht. Safari is almost certainly the first to be launched and sitting proud on her mooring while most of us dream of future sailing weekends in the sun. The 2015 Sailing programme is complete and I wish to thank all of those involved but especially the OoD volunteers whether on the programme or in the background as potential reserves.

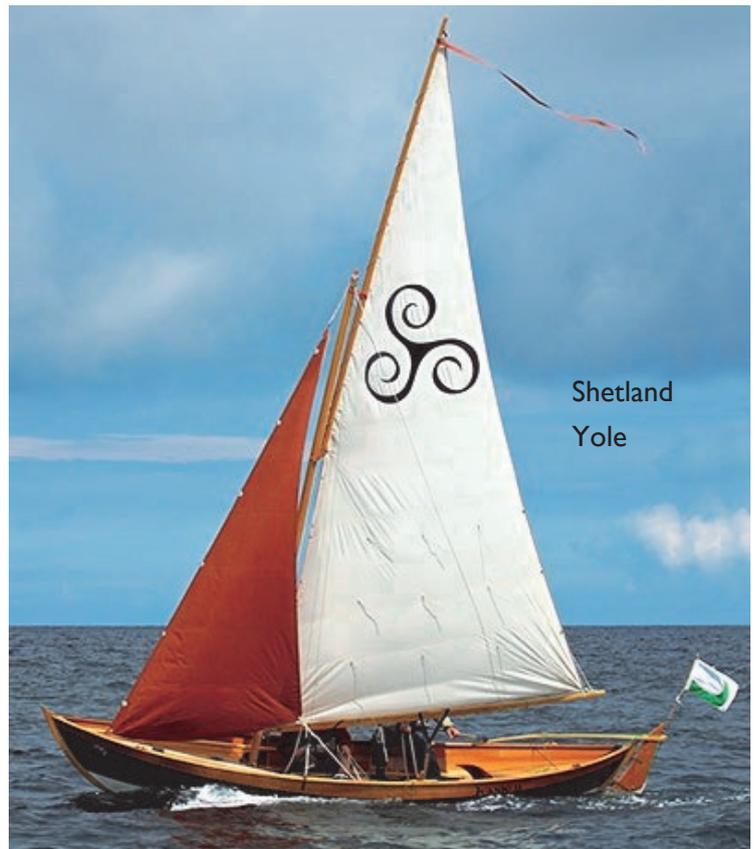
This brings me to what I believe is a first in our club, Joshua Hollingworth given the fact he has been sailing these waters since his 3rd birthday has agreed to do the first and last official OoD run trips this year. (Admittedly their may have been a little press ganging on my and Granddads' part.) Not the most challenging destinations but he knows them well and everyone has to start somewhere. For those who fancy a night sail we have posted an "N" against destinations given the right conditions a night sail may occur. These will be leaving late on Friday night or very early Saturday morning but please try and contact either myself, Mark Suffield or John Hull at least a week in advance if your interested as trips of this nature are very weather dependent. For anyone who is

interested in going on any of our cruises could you please contact myself or put your name on the notice board in the club then groups can be formed for discussions. The Anglesey exploration week will be briefly joined by John and Lainey Widdaker Sailing a group of up to four Shetland Yoles around Anglesey.

I do hope their's something in the programme for everyone to join in with especially our newer members. I hope to see you all out on the water so here's to fair weather and a good breeze.

Mike Hollingworth

Rear Commodore.





AN ALTERNATIVE TO EXCEL ?

Dusseldorf Boot 2015.

After a number of disappointing visits to the Excel London Boat Show, each one more disappointing than the previous, we made a decision to try the Dusseldorf Show after recommendations made by others. And we were not disappointed. What a fantastic show of yachts and equipment – manufacturers we hadn't heard of before, an unbelievable choice of inflatables, a wide range of yachts from all of the major manufacturers and some lesser known, a total of 1,650 exhibitors in 17 halls. In the 2 days we were there we probably managed at least a walk round half of the halls, and a proper look at 25% of them.

Want to sit down somewhere? Plenty of seating, and no standing around awaiting tables to become free so you can eat. No sign of soggy boxes of noodles or mushy baked potatoes, but a proper self-service meal for about £14/head including an alcoholic drink.

We got on-board as many yachts as possible – including the European Yacht of the Year, the Wauquiez Centurion 57 (£525,000 plus), a Spirit 36 (£ you wouldn't believe – with as much headroom as a Leisure 17 but drop dead gorgeous) and the Oyster 575. The 3 yachts we were most taken with were the Spirit 37, Scalar 40, and (more realistically given our imminent Premium Bond later this year) a Nordship 36DS. So I guess its Sarico for the foreseeable future!

Dusseldorf itself does what it can to make a visit enjoyable – the admission ticket allowing free use of public transport in Dusseldorf for the duration of the show, not just to and from the exhibition centre. Travel time from the hotel to the exhibition was approx. 25 minutes door to door, and to the centre of Dusseldorf approx. 10 minutes. Trains / Trams / Metro approx. every 10 minutes (more frequent at peak times).

I did some rough workings out of the cost of going to Excel v the cost of going to Dusseldorf from Stafford for a weekend, based on booking approx. 8 weeks in advance (which is what we did), with 2 days at the show, 1 day sightseeing.

Dusseldorf.

Return fast train to Birmingham International, 2 x £9.90

Birmingham / Dusseldorf – return, including 25kg baggage allowance and snack on flight, 2 x £110.

Public transport from airport to Dusseldorf, around Dusseldorf and back to Airport – Free.

3 nights in a 3 star hotel, double room with free wi fi and continental Breakfast, 3 x £61.

2 day ticket for the show, 2 x £16

Show guide, £2.20

Total cost £457.00



Excel.

Return fast train from Stafford, 2 x £71.90.

Zone 1 to 6 Travel card for Saturday and Sunday (off peak after 09.30), 4 x £12.00.

Premier Inn (Docklands or Blackfriars) inc. continental breakfast, £316.70.

Wi-Fi – 2 devices x 3 days = £18.00. (now free following policy change).

2 day ticket for the show, 2 x £26 = £52.00.

Show Guide, £5.00.

Total cost £583.50



Downsides? Not as much chandlery sales as perhaps you would find at Southampton, but the one 'bulky' item we did buy was delivered free to Stafford.

How long Excel can continue we really don't know, but we know where we intend going next year! If Dusseldorf could add in John Goode's Anchoring and Sail Handling practical demonstrations, it would be perfect.

Dave and Georgina Clough.

WORKING PARTY

Don't let the title put you off!

This is very much a cheerful social event

Providing you with the opportunity

To network with new and old fellow members

While providing much appreciated

*TLC to **YOUR CLUBHOUSE***

Feel factor guaranteed

Saturday April 25th after breakfast

Your help would be appreciated!



OBITUARY

Colin Snowdon

1946 - 2015

SHEARWATER



A fond farewell to our fellow Venturer Colin Snowdon

Colin was a true gentleman, very polite with a source of interesting information. I believe Colin was born out of his time, in so much as his views, his habits and his manners were of a time gone by.

Colin loved his food nearly as much as his yacht "Shearwater" and was a regular in the clubhouse galley preparing meticulous meals for himself.

He will certainly be missed by all who knew him both in and outside of sailing circles as he was a one-off genuine character.

I looked upon Col as a lord of the manor type of person but with a very approachable attitude in every way.

I think we will all miss that infectious laugh he had with a jovial attitude as well. His love of books made him interesting to converse with and he made an income from these same books.

One long lasting memory of Col will be his brown rigger boots, old trousers and checkered shirt working on his beloved yacht "Shearwater". Whilst being a learned sort of person, he kept things simple on the boat with a spirit stove and a bucket for the heads, quite a contrast really !!

I and all my fellow Venturer's who knew him, will be poorer for the loss of his presence. Sail on by Col to that adventure in the sky !

Des and friends xx



PAST EVENTS

Winter Events write up

31st January.

Over 50 members were present at Jon and Maria Stanley's audio visual presentation of their past 2 seasons in Scotland with Arabella – a total of 85 days cruising. Jon had promised an innovative talk, and when he said it would last for exactly 29 minutes and 33 seconds if it was fairly clear how they intended doing it. Jon and Maria covered 1,120 miles, visited a total of 51 Ports / anchorages, and only lost 14 days due to weather.

For those who were not there the Club Web Site now has a link to the presentation – it can be found in the Member Area, or if you have the patience you can type in [http:// https://www.dropbox.com/s/jc0d6shc9ivwuwz/NWVYC%20Final%20production3.mp4?dl=0](http://https://www.dropbox.com/s/jc0d6shc9ivwuwz/NWVYC%20Final%20production3.mp4?dl=0) and <https://www.dropbox.com/s/d9dylxma4szjmr9/nwvyc.ppt?dl=0> in your web browser.. Ensure you have your sound turned on.

The Social Sub Committee again did us proud with the Burns night themed food. My thanks go out to all that helped with the food, and did a stint behind the bar.

28th February.

Some blustery conditions for the weekend kept the numbers down, but nevertheless over 40 members came to hear Graham Clark, Controller, Coastguard Operations Centre Holyhead bringing us up to date with the ongoing changes within the Coastguard, and some anecdotal tales of his time on SAR Helicopters.

Liverpool Coastguard broadcasting the week before despite having been closed has now been explained – the Liverpool area will be coming under the control of Belfast, but Belfast have not yet been upgraded to the new technology – that happens in September this year, so Holyhead are 'ghosting' as Liverpool to avoid any confusion until the switchover.

Expect to hear different voices at Holyhead as they are now capable of being seamlessly switched with the National Maritime Operations Centre at Fareham, and Falmouth, Milford Haven and Humber Coastguard, with Aberdeen, Shetland, Belfast, Stornaway and Dover Coastguard during this year.

The new hangar facility at Caernarfon to house the two new Sikorsky S-92 is nearing completion. Graham explained that whilst 5 Sea Kings were available at Valley, often only 1 was serviceable. They are very old aircraft although the technology is up to date. The S-92's are capable of a top speed of 165 knots (Sea King was 112 knots). Graham did warn us about the increased downdraught on a S-92 – its significantly greater than a Sea King, and for those who have participated in exercises with R122 *(or indeed been rescued by one) will testify downdraught from Sea Kings is phenomenal. Rotor de-icing will also enable S-92's to fly in cloud.

Despite the Social Sub Committee being somewhat depleted by illness and prior engagements the food was again excellent. Please don't feel that being part of the SSC is mandatory for being behind the Galley counter – feel free to offer assistance.

David Clough
Vice Commodore



The Timbo.

Whilst researching some information for the yearbook, I came across an interesting story about the Rhoscolyn Lifeboat. The lifeboat station at Rhoscolyn closed in 1929, and was replaced by the familiar Beacon – the station itself now converted into accommodation.

The Rhoscolyn lifeboat is perhaps best known for its attempted rescue of the small coaster 'Timbo' on Friday 1st December 1920. The Timbo was en route to Ireland from Holyhead when she was overcome by a Westerly storm



off South Stack and began to drift down the coast. Apparently the rudder and propeller were spending more time out of the water than in it! Despite being only three miles off the coast, it took the lifeboat crew of 13 three hours to reach her – remember they were rowing. At the 5th attempt they got a line onto her, but it parted. Making a decision to return to shore, the lifeboat cap-sized as it turned. Five of the lifeboat crew lost their lives that day including Coxswain Owen Owens, 17 year old Richard Hughes and his older brother Evan. Prior to running aground on Dinas Dinlle beach, the Timbo Captain ordered 5 of his crew into a ships lifeboat – only 1 made it to the shore.



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A memorial to the sacrifice made by the lifeboat crew can be seen in Rhoscolyn Churchyard – well worth a visit next time you are there.

Dave Clough
Sarico



FORTHCOMING EVENTS FROM FRONT PAGE

May 16th – 17th **Porth Eilian via Cemlyn** OoD Dave Clough – Sarico :- Cemlyn is a fantastic nature reserve and somewhere we've been trying to fit into the programme for sometime. This weekend not only includes the James Berry Trophy a points race but also gives the opportunity for a partial return to your mooring by coming halfway back on Saturday to Porth Eilian.

May 23rd – **Anglesey Exploration week incorporating the 2 week Slingshot Cruise** OoD Mike Hollingworth – Chinook :- After last years success with this week I have decided to run it again. A gentle trip around Anglesey. For those who fancy going a little further if the weather is good they can head to Ireland or the IOM.

June 6th – **RNLI Training Weekend** OoD Paul Morton – Mood Indigo :- Once again the Beaumaris Lifeboat crew have volunteered to do some training with ourselves on the Saturday meeting in the lifeboat house at 9.00 am. After a days training we will host the lifeboat crew with a DIY BBQ, your support and participation for this weekend would be appreciated.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members, some of you will have already met some of them in the clubhouse.

Stephen Brown who sails a Coribee named Lily Ella.

Dave & Wendy Prytherch who have a Westerly Griffin named Islay.

Paul & Marie Lawrenson who are the new owners of Hwyl Dda.

Pamela Drew who sails as part of Paul Campbell-Kelly's crew.

Kind Regards

Susan D Beetlestone. NWVYC Membership Secretary.





CLUBHOUSE FACILITIES

Use of the Clubhouse

When we consider the use of the clubhouse we need to look at the objectives of the club which are “to encourage cruising in sailing boats and to study the principles of navigation and seamanship”. The club deliberately chose not to allow social members, other than anchor members.

The clubhouse is therefore there to support member’s sailing activities.

The Clubhouse area provides:-

Car parking whilst on the boat

Secure storage for members inflatable dinghies and outboards

Galley facilities for occasional use

A focal point for sailing activities.

A meeting place for members present in the Bay.

Toilet and washing facilities.

A venue for club social activities.

It was constructed with the assistance and funds of all members and those using it should ensure that:-

- the facilities are available to all members
- the Clubhouse should be looked after in the same way you would your home and left as you found it, if not better.

behaviour should be in a manner causing the minimum disturbance to others using the clubhouse

So please consider the following.

Available to all members

Galley

• The fridges are for general short term use of all members. Members should only store provisions for imminent use in the fridges so that there is room for all. Other food and non-food items should not be stored in the clubhouse. Any items taken into the clubhouse should be returned to your boat/car when you have finished preparing or eating your meal.

- Any out of date items left in Fridges will be disposed of.

The dining tables are principally for dining and so should be vacated when you have finished your meal to make way for others.

Car Park

- Please park considerately to ensure that as many members as possible can park their car in the car park. If going away for an extended period, please park to the rear of the clubhouse.

The chains that prevent others from using the car park spaces to the rear of the clubhouse should be replaced once you have moved your car – the key to the padlock is hanging in the galley area.

Showers and Toilets

The heads area has limited storage – do not leave kit bags on the bench seating as it makes it difficult for others when showering.

Dinghy Store

Priority will be given to those members who live away from the Beaumaris area to provide greater convenience for those travelling longer distances.

The dinghy store is not intended for long term storage of infrequently used dinghies/outboards, or outboards in excess of 6hp.

Clean mooring tackle may be stored in lieu of a dinghy during the period October to March. No other items should be stored.

Fuel may only be stored within an outboards integral fuel tank.

Look after your clubhouse

Furnishings

- Please don't wear dirty or wet clothes or shoes in the Galley area. The laminate flooring is not indestructible.

Doors should be kept closed at all times when the heating is on and the heating turned off when the clubhouse is vacated. Neither of the clubhouse outer doors should be left open when the clubhouse is unattended for everyone's security. The door entry code must not be revealed to non-members under any circumstances other than by those members nominated to deal with visiting yachtsmen.

Waste water system

- The club has a small septic tank which needs treating with care. Bleach, disinfectant and paint cleaning materials must not be allowed to enter any of the club's drains (sinks, washbasins or WCs), nor should any solid matter other than toilet paper and organic material be flushed – sanitary products remain in the tank, blue paper towel blocks the drains.

Please do not pour fats oils and grease down the drains

Heating

- The water heaters should be turned off when leaving the clubhouse – if you are unsure whether you are last to leave, turn them off anyway – if another member returns they can turn them back on again.

Do not set the space heaters in the clubhouse on for a period longer than is required – turn them off, and keep the door to the entrance lobby closed when the space heaters are on. Don't leave outside doors open!

Housekeeping

- All utensils and crockery etc. should be washed, dried and put away – do not leave it for someone else to put away.
- Take your rubbish and empty bottles and cans home. The club only has a domestic waste collection service which is on alternate Fridays. The Council will not take the bin if it is over full (lid not closed) or any rubbish left around the bin. The bin is for clubhouse waste only – any boat waste must be placed in the other bins on the Point or taken home. If you are present at the Clubhouse on the Thursday before collection, please move the bin to the front corner of the clubhouse by the entrance to the car park. On a Friday once it is emptied please move it back to the patio area.

Accidents do happen – so if you have one that creates a mess or spillage please clean it up.

Cause the minimum disturbance to others

- Personal entertainment equipment should be personal (headphones only) whilst in the galley area. If you want to watch or listen to something communally then the clubroom may be used when free but the volume must be kept down to a level where it does not disturb others.
- Loud and foul language must not be used.
- Dogs, other than Guide Dogs, are not allowed in the clubhouse. Member's dogs should be kept under control at all times on the club grounds, and not be allowed to make a nuisance of themselves or intimidate fellow club members.

If you move the outside furniture, place it back in the position you found it.

Lee Downes – Commodore

David Clough – Vice Commodore

Mike Holingworth – Rear Commodore



SAIL LAUNDERING

Your sails

Sail laundering has now been completed by the Boatshed at Port Dinorwic. In speaking with Stephen, he has stated that most of you took your sails directly to the Boatshed – there were only a few which were collected from the clubhouse, as per previous years. He is assuming that as you have dropped them off, you will also be collecting them in person!

So if you haven't already done so, would you all please speak to the Boatshed directly on 01248 679939 to make arrangements to collect your sails?

Their opening hours are Monday – Friday 0800 – 1600 hrs and 1000 – 1300 on Saturday. If anyone needs assistance with recovering their sails, could you please contact me directly to discuss.

Joy Bennett

BOSUN

Bosun

It is with regret that we have accepted Steve Maclean's resignation as Bosun. During his time on the committee, he has worked with enthusiasm and passion as Bosun and has also been responsible for sourcing the advertisers for the yearbook and raffle sponsors for the Dinner Dance for which we offer him our sincere thanks.

We continue to hold stocks of publications and club clothing and can obtain Imray publications within a week at a discounted member's rate. If you would like any publications, can you please email bosun@nwvyc.org.uk in the first instance and your enquiry will be dealt with as before.

If you feel that you have some spare time to assist in running the bosun's stores, could you please contact me for more details? Many thanks Joy Bennett



50 CLUB

50 Club

What a result – both January and February’s draws saw full houses with three Winners each month! The results are as follow: -

January

1 st Prize	No 19	Graham and Noreen on Sizzler	£50.00
2 nd Prize	No 07	Joy on Avalon	£20.00
3 rd Prize	No 39	Jan and John on Whispered Secret	£15.00

February

1 st Prize	No 19	Graham and Noreen on Sizzler	£50.00
2 nd Prize	No 04	Jo and John on Davico	£20.00
3 rd Prize	No 47	Georgie and Dave on Sarico	£15.00

WE STILL HAVE NUMBERS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AND DON'T FORGET THAT THE SOS PARTY DRAW COULD WIN YOU £150 IF YOUR NUMBER IS DRAWN FIRST!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE.

1. Please don't park on the beach - use the Club's car park (or elsewhere on the Point if this is full)
2. All guests must be signed in.
3. If you're signing in a guest, please ensure they are aware of rules for management of the Clubhouse - especially the following items on rubbish, waste food, bottles etc.
4. **All** members are responsible for keeping the Clubhouse and adjoining area tidy. This includes:-
 - Taking ALL your rubbish home. This includes food waste, wine bottles and beer cans.
 - Removing unused items from the refrigerators
 - Not monopolising cooking facilities or storage space in refrigerators
 - Doing your own washing up and putting away ASAP.
 - Please don't leave personal items, sailing equipment, clothing or provisions scattered around the Clubhouse and obstructing seating space or work surfaces



***** Thank you. *****



Start of Season Party – Saturday 25th April.

Yes, it's that time of year again. An opportunity to socialise and discuss the forthcoming sailing weekends and summer cruise plans with others, and later in the evening we will have entertainment provided by The Conwy's, a musical duo who are also members of North Wales Cruising Club. Expect some good fun and a sing-a-long!

As this is an outside catered event advance booking is required, although payment can be made on the night. If you haven't booked by Tuesday 21st April then please contact me directly on 01785 613161 (not my mobile please) or e-mail vice.commodore@nwvyc.org.uk to ascertain if any additional tickets are available. Tickets are available on the club web site at a cost of £8 each, but you can get a discount of 50p/tickets by purchasing directly from me, payment by cheque payable to NWVYC – no cash please, unless you pay on the night.

Bookings are automatically made if you pay on the Web site, otherwise please e-mail me or call as per above.

Bar opens 18:00

Food served approx. 19:00

Entertainment from approx. 21:00

Dave Clough

Vice Commodore



Start of Season Party Booking Form

Saturday 25th April 18:00

Tickets £7.50 each

Name.....

...

(Block Capitals please)

Number of tickets required.....

Payment Web Site/ Cheque/ Cash on the night

(Delete as applicable)

Contact number.....



THOUGHTS FROM THE VICE

DCVC March 2015.

We are now in the transition phase between winter and the sailing season, and at the time of writing this we have had 2 excellent winter events in the clubhouse – see elsewhere for further details. These events are not possible without the efforts of the Social Sub Committee, the washer uppers, those who do a stint behind the bar, or those that attend. Thank you to you all.

If you are in the clubhouse the day before, on the day or the day after a Social please have a look at the notice on the Galley noticeboard where you will find an aide memoir of things you may be able to help with.

Don't forget the Start of Season party – see this Venturer, the Club Web site or the notice in the Clubhouse for more details. That will be the last formal club Social until October, but plenty of opportunity for informal ones at every club sailing event.

My club sailing activities are focussed on the Racing this year, and it would be great to see more of you out there testing your skills against others. The web site has been updated to include all of the reasons why Racing enhances your skills, the General Sailing Instructions, and new for this year all of the Sailing Instructions for the planned races.

Yacht handicaps have also been reviewed, and some adjustment made based on previous results for some of the more successful yachts. Again, the handicap list can be found in the Racing section.

If anyone is unsure about any aspect of our Racing activities, please don't hesitate to contact myself or any other member of the Sailing Sub Committee.

Dave Clough

Vice Commodore



DANCIER at Traeth Coch Club

More scenes from Dancier.
Plenty of refreshments needed to keep the dancers going but all that attended the last one at the CSC should have known what they were letting themselves into.
Altogether a great but hectic night!



Des describes to the crowd the size of a huge mackerel he caught crossing to the Island ,whilst an onlooker at the door scratches his head in disbelief!

